

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NOUAKC 00811 072213Z

46/43

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 SS-15

NSC-05 L-03 PRS-01 PA-01 USIA-06 /076 W

----- 100181

R 051203Z APR 76 CORRECTED FOR EO TAGS AND SUBJECT

FM AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5422

INFO AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL CASABLANCA

C O N F I D E N T I A L NOUAKCHOTT 0811

BRUSSELS AND LAGOS FOR FAA REP

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (FOR EO, TAGS, AND SUBJECT)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAIR, PFOR, MR, UR

SUBJECT: AERO FLOT SERVICE TO MAURITANIA

REF: NOUAKCHOTT 244

1. SOVIET DIPLOMAT CONFIRMED TO EMBOFF APRIL 3 THAT AEROFLOT WAS SCHEDULED TO BEGIN ONCE-WEEKLY SERVICE TO NOUADHIBOU BEGINNING APRIL 1. WHEN ASKED ABOUT STATUS OF FLIGHT, SOVIET SAID INAUGURATION OF SERVICE HAS BEEN DELAYED. HE SUGGESTED DETAILS OF AGREEMENT MUST STILL BE WORKED OUT, ADDING THAT AEROFLOT REPRESENTATIVE ASSIGNED TO MAURITANIA, VALENTINE MATIOUNINE, IS PRESENTLY IN MOSCOW. (MATIOUNINE DEPARTED NOUAKCHOTT FOR MOSCOW ON MARCH 6.)

2. COMMENT: GIRM MAY BE HOLDING BACK ON GIVING FINAL APPROVAL
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PAGE 02 NOUAKC 00811 072213Z

FOR AEROFLOT SERVICE TO NOUADHIBOU UNTIL IT HAS BETTER IDEA

OF SOVIET INTENTIONS ON WESTERN SAHARA QUESTION. ALTHOUGH
SOVIET DIPLOMAT INSISTED THAT SAHARAN SITUATION
HAS HAD NO EFFECT ON USSR RELATIONS WITH MAURITANIA,
WE BELIEVE THERE IS CONTRARY EVIDENCE WHICH SUGGESTS
GIRM IS CURRENTLY SUSPICIOUS OF SOVIET MOTIVES IN
NORTHWEST AFRICA. ANGOLAN OBJECT LESSON IS ALSO
FRESH IN MINDS OF MAURITANIANS. RESULTS OF SOVIET
FISHERIES DELEGATION NOW IN MAURITANIA MAY GIVE SOME
CLUE AS TO POSTION GIRM INTENDS TO TAKE TOWARDS USSR
ON VARIETY OF ISSUES, INCLUDING AEROFLOT SERVICE TO
NOUADHIBOU.HANDYSIDE

NOTE BY OC/T: USIA PLEASE TAKE AS ORIGINAL

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition History: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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04 MAY 2006

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TAGS: EAIR, PFOR, MR, UR, (MATIOUNINE, VALENTINE)
To: STATE
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